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OGC 77-6284

3 October 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: ☒ O/SA/DDO/EO

FROM: ☒ Office of General Counsel

SUBJECT: Request for Information on Tscherim Soobzokov
from United States Attorney's Office, Southern District,
New York.

1. Per our telephone conversation of 23 September 1977, I am reducing to writing our discussions and final agreement concerning the proper course of action in responding to a request for records on Tscherim Soobzokov from Harry C. Batchelder, Jr., Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of New York.

2. Mr. Batchelder has written the Finance and Accounting Office, U.S. Army, Civilian Payroll Section (a military unit used by the Agency for the funding of covert employees), asking for "any and all information concerning Soobzokov's employment with the U.S. Government."

3. Researching this case uncovered the following facts:

a. Mr. Soobzokov was associated with the Agency during the 1954 through the 1959 time period.

b. Mr. Soobzokov was associated with two Agency projects: WAKEFUL and AEREDDY.

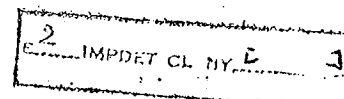
c. There is a current book entitled, "Wanted! The Search for Nazis in America", by Howard Blum, Quadrangle/New York Times Book Co., 1977, in which the author alleges Mr. Soobzokov to be a former Nazi. The author further alleges that Mr. Soobzokov was an Agency employee. (He offers proof of this latter contention by describing records from the Financial and Accounting Office, U.S. Army, Civilian Payroll Section and describing this as "a conduit for paying low-level CIA employees.")

4. As a result of these facts, we agreed that I would contact Mr. Batchelder for the following purposes:

a. Inform him of Agency interest in this matter and have him discontinue his request for information to the Financial and Accounting Office, U.S. Army, Civilian Payroll Section.

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b. Inform him of the Agency's desire to cooperate with his investigation.

c. Determine the exact nature of the proceedings which are currently being made against Mr. Soobzokov.

d. To determine exactly which Directorate files would be relevant to the continuance of his investigation.

e. To establish a liaison point through which Mr. Batchelder can make any and all future requests concerning Mr. Soobzokov's association with the Agency.

5. I am continuing this course of action by making an appointment to see Mr. Batchelder as soon as is mutually convenient, probably sometime the week of September 26. I will relay the outcome of this meeting to you as soon as possible.

cc: []
C/CCS

MFJ:nl

Distribution:

Original : Addressee

1 : ~~RELEASE OF INFORMATION~~

✓ 1 : MFJ Signer

1 : Chrono

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